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Inventor: Gordon Herman BOKELMAN et al.

Appln. No. New U.S. Patent Appln.

Docket No.: 021238-469

Work Atty: WOT/tlp

Date: February 1, 2002

Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR AIR CURING TOBACCO

 The following was/were received in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date stamped hereon:

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Utility Patent Application Transmittal                           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Executed Declaration/Power of Attorney                        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Check for \$ <u>780.00</u> is enclosed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Design Patent Application Transmittal                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Unexecuted Declaration/Power of Attorney                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Check for \$ <u>  </u> is enclosed                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Continuing Prosecution Application Request                                  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Assignment/Assignment Recordation Form Cover Sheet (PTO-1595) | <input type="checkbox"/> Charge \$ <u>  </u> to Deposit Account            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Provisional Application Cover Sheet   | <input type="checkbox"/> Claim for Convention Priority w/_ certified copy(s)                      | <input type="checkbox"/>   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Provisional Application Transmittal   | <input type="checkbox"/> Preliminary Amendment  | <input type="checkbox"/>   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Continuation/Divisional Application (Rule 1.53(b)) with copy of application | <input type="checkbox"/> Information Discl. Statement Transmittal Letter                          | <input type="checkbox"/>   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Continued Examination   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Citation (PTO-1449)                    | <input type="checkbox"/>   |
| INCLUDING:   |   |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specification (pages 1 - <u>11</u> )                             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement w/ <u>23</u> document(s)     | <input type="checkbox"/>   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Claims (claim(s) 1 - <u>20</u> , <u>4</u> pgs.)                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition for ___ Month Extension of Time                                 | <input type="checkbox"/>   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drawings (Fig(s). 1a - <u>3</u> , <u>3</u> pgs.)                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Constructive Petition for Extensions of Time                             | <input type="checkbox"/>   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Abstract of the Disclosure                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Patent Application Data Sheet  | <input type="checkbox"/>   |



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Patent  
Attorney's Docket No. 021238-469

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of ) **MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE**  
Gordon Herman BOKELMAN et al. )  
Application No.: 10/060,347 ) Group Art Unit: 1731  
Filed: February 1, 2002 ) Examiner: C. Lopez  
For: TOBACCO CURING BARN (As ) Confirmation No.: 7641  
Amended) )  
)

**REQUEST FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT THAT ALL DOCUMENTS  
CITED IN FEBRUARY 1, 2002 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT HAVE BEEN CONSIDERED**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants gratefully acknowledge receipt of a Notice of Allowance dated April 22, 2004. However, the Notice of Allowance did not indicate that documents submitted with the First Information Disclosure filed on February 1, 2002 have been considered by the Examiner. For the convenience of the Examiner, a copy of the Information Disclosure Statement and the stamped postcard submitted on February 1, 2002 are enclosed.

The Examiner is requested to initial and return to the undersigned a copy of the subject Form PTO-1449.

In view of the foregoing, the Examiner is requested to make of record the documents submitted with the Information Disclosure Statement filed on February 1, 2002.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: April 27, 2004

By: Peter K. Skiff  
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VA 140042.1



Patent  
Attorney's Docket No. 021238-469

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of )  
Gordon Herman BOKELMAN et al. ) Group Art Unit: Unassigned  
Application No.: New U.S. Patent Application ) Examiner: Unassigned  
Filed: February 1, 2002 )  
For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR AIR )  
CURING TOBACCO )

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants hereby submit the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, a copy of each of the documents cited is enclosed.

The documents are being submitted within 3 months of the filing or entry of the national stage of this application or before the first Office Action on the merits, whichever is later, therefore no fee or statement is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b).

It is respectfully requested that an Examiner-initialed copy of the attached PTO-1449 form be returned to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

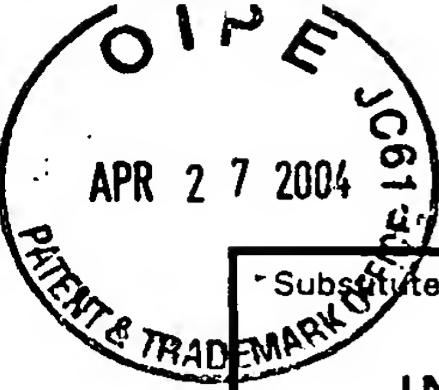
By: William O. Trousdell  
William O. Trousdell  
Registration No. 38,637

P.O. Box 1404  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404  
(703) 836-6620

Date: February 1, 2002

DOCKETED  
filed 2-1-02 <sup>CS5</sup>

APR 27 2004



SHEET 1 OF 1

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

ATTORNEY'S DKT No. 021238-469	APPLICATION NO. New U.S. Patent Appln
APPLICANT Gordon Herman BOKELMAN et al.	
FILING DATE February 1, 2002	GROUP Unassigned

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication (MM-DD-YYYY)
	Number	Kind Code (if known)		
	2,343,345		R.D. TOUTON	03-07-1944
	2,528,982		R.D. TOUTON	11-07-1950
	3,110,326		F.J. HASSSLER	11-12-1963
	3,503,137		R.W. WILSON	03-31-1970
	3,669,429		DEW	06-13-1972
	3,999,303		MARTIN et al.	12-28-1976
	4,021,928		JOHNSON	05-10-1977
	4,192,323		HORNE	03-11-1980
	4,326,537		CROSLIN	04-27-1982
	4,470,422		JOUBERT et al.	09-11-1984
	4,559,956		DE LANGE et al.	12-24-1985
	4,850,264		KISER	07-25-1989
	4,960,041		KISER	10-02-1990
	5,146,977		KISER	09-15-1992
	5,586,932		KISER	12-24-1996
	5,685,710		MARTINEZ SAGRERA et al.	11-11-1997

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Foreign Patent Document		Country	Date of Publication (MM-DD-YYYY)	Translation <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no
	Number	Kind Code (if known)			
	CA 557,858		CANADA	05-27-1958	
	SU 1009-414-A		RUSSIA	04-07-1983	abst
	FR 1,206,397		FRANCE	02-09-1960	X
	FR 583,005		FRANCE	01-05-1925	X
	IT 265119		ITALY	03-24-1929	X
	IT 657767		ITALY	11-16-1963	X

## NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Include name of author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.		
	BUENSOD, A.C., <u>Air Conditioning for Tobacco Manufacturing</u> , Architectural Record, November 1952, pp. 88-89		
Examiner Signature			
	Date Considered		

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.